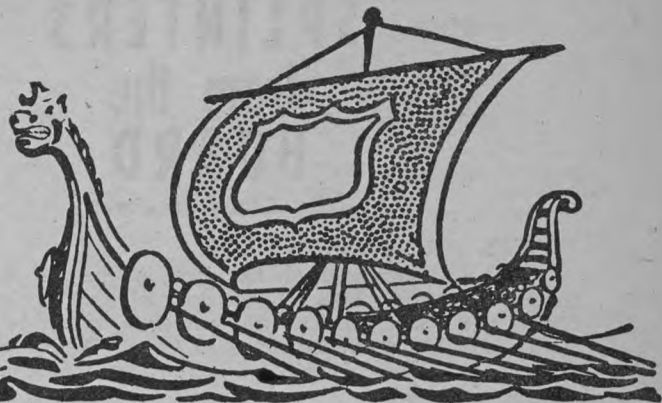




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TEN PAGES

OCTOBER, 1971

New Club in Calgary

Centre Operations Director Resigns

Gary Johnson, well-known Scandinavian Centre Director and car salesman for Waterloo Mercury Sales Ltd., has resigned from the Board of Directors and his sales job.

Mr. Johnson decided he would like to stay in Europe after leaving on Scandinavian Centre Charter Flight No. 37 to Oslo last July. Although he had never been to Europe before, he has relatives in Norway.

His decision to remain in Europe was not an easy one for he will have to start a whole new life in a country of which he does not even speak the language. While travelling and visiting in Norway, he said he picked up the Norwegian language enough to get along fairly well.

While travelling into Germany he was able to get a job with a painting contractor in Munich. He intends to remain there for a year.

Gary says he plans to do some



GARY JOHNSON

travelling while there - Switzerland, Austria, etc.

He says he is anxious to hear from his friends in Edmonton who would like to send him some news. His address is:

Gary Johnson
c/o British Consulate
13 Akademiestr 7
Munich, Germany

THANKSGIVING DAY

Canada's first official Thanksgiving Day was Nov. 6, 1879, when a statutory holiday proclaimed it a "day of general thanksgiving to Almighty God for the bountiful harvest with which Canada has been blessed."

Since those days of Governor-General the Marquis of Lorne the holiday has bounced around the bottom of the calendar. For years before the First Great War, Thanksgiving was observed on the third Monday of October.

Then right after the war Thanksgiving was proclaimed for the Monday of the week in which Armistice Day (Nov. 11) occurred.

From 1921 to '31 Armistice Day and Thanksgiving were merged; both were observed on the Monday of the week in which Nov. 11 fell. The two days were separated again in 1931, when Armistice became Remembrance Day and Thanksgiving became an October-Monday observance. Our authority is Encyclopedia Canadiana.

This year Thanksgiving will be observed on Monday, October 11.

LEIF EIRIKSSON CLUB

By Art Reykdal

It could happen only in Canada, with its polyglot of multitudinous races. An Icelandic-Canadian club was instigated by a German.

Dr. Clive H. Cardinal, a professor at University of Calgary, long ago chose ethnic studies - including the Icelanders - as a special interest.

When Dr. Gudrun Helgadóttir, who leads a girls' school in Reykjavik, visited Calgary as part of a Canadian lecture tour, Dr. Cardinal acted as her host and invited all the local Icelanders he could find to meet her.

The visit last Christmas of Judge W. J. Lindal from Winnipeg again brought Calgary Icelanders to the Cardinal home. In March, Andres Bjornsson, director-general of Icelandic state radio and television broadcasting services, spoke at the university, with Dr. Cardinal in charge of the program and this time the "Leif Eiriksson Club of Calgary" was born.

An executive committee was

formed with Sigurjon Austman as president, supported by J. G. Bjornson, Mrs. S. M. Davidson, Art Einarson, Margret Geppert, Ruth Hilland, Mrs. K. Gislason, Cliff Martinson, Dr. and Mrs. Alafur Mixa, Mrs. Rose Olsen, Art Reykdal, Gene Sigfusson and Mrs. W. Wyers.

The first general meeting was held at the university June 17, when Dr. Olafur Mixa, a general practitioner from Reykjavik who is taking post-graduate studies in Calgary, showed slides of Icelandic scenes with brief historical sketches to describe their significance.

To mark Iceland's national day, Mrs. Mixa appeared clad in Skautbunning, and was dubbed Fjallkona of the evening. To round out the program, Art Reykdal recited some original verse and Icelandic songs were sung, some of them in English translation.

Still in its infancy, the club already has 50 paid-up members. The second general meeting will be held in October.

Travelling In NorSweDen

By Leslie L. Morris

Being able to go to Scandinavia was a tremendous thrill. After learning that we were going I had made up my mind to see as much of the countries as I could in the 25 days we had there.

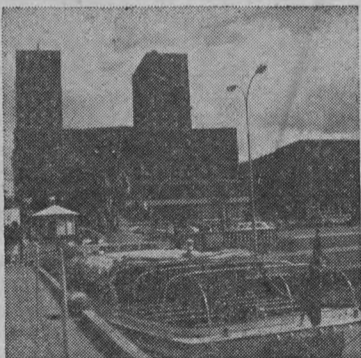
I read as much about the countries as I could and found even the reading most fascinating. Then I took a map and marked out an itinerary. One of our passengers, Adolph Peterson of West Yellowstone, Montana, said I was going to be a very tired boy if I stuck to that route. But I thought if you don't make some effort you could get bogged down in one place and see very little.

Looking at the map and following the arrows you can see that our route was from Oslo to Trondheim, Oslo, Bergen, Stavanger, Oslo, Stockholm, Gothenburg, Uddevalla, Malmö, Copenhagen, Odense, Aarhus, Gothenburg via Frederikshavn, back to Oslo. We did it all, too!

OSLO FOR 5 DAYS

Knowing that we were going to do a lot travelling we decided to get a Eurailpass as against any other method of travel such as buses, rental car or even planes. This pass cost each of us \$110.00 for 21 days and allowed us to travel on trains all over Europe (excluding Finland and Eastern Europe), also ferries and buses operated by the particular railway, first class, anytime and as often as we wanted for 21 days.

Because we had 25 days there I



OSLO CITY HALL

decided we should stay in Oslo for the first few days so that we would not use up our pass too soon and not get back to Oslo where we had to catch our plane back to Canada.

As I mentioned in the first episode we stayed at the Oslo Student Town, 85 Sognsveien, the first night and the room we had was not as comfortable as I wanted, but had I have known, we could have gotten into the Summer Hotel there and been really comfortable.

The room we had had a single bed and a couch and was in an apartment or dormitory type building, perfectly suitable for students or single persons, but to me, not for married persons.

A peculiar incident occurred this first night. Beth and I had gone to bed early according to the clock

(Continued on Page 6)



HARV HAUGEN

\$500 Scholarship

Mr. Harv Haugen, District Director of Zone No. 4 Sons of Norway, announced at a meeting of Sons of Norway, Ronning Lodge Scholarship Committee meeting, that a \$500.00 scholarship has been authorized to be awarded to any student at Camrose Lutheran College, to be given as the Board of Governors sees fit, based on ability and need. District No. 4 is comprised of approximately 45 Lodges in Alberta, Montana and North Dakota.

VISITOR FROM ICELAND

By Lillian MacPherson

Edmonton Icelanders were honored to entertain Gisli Gudmundsson and his wife, Nanna Magnúsdóttir, from Reykjavik. Gisli is well-known to Western Icelanders who have travelled in Iceland on his excellent tours.

He was invited to give the toast from Iceland at Islendingurdagurinn in Gimli, and from there travelled to Edmonton, Markerville, Calgary and Vancouver. While in Edmonton he was hosted by Gunnar and Shirley Thorvaldson.

One evening of his visit was devoted to a wine and cheese party at the Scandinavian Centre, where Gisli showed two excellent films. One of the films was on the wonders of Iceland, which was interesting for those who had never

been there, and brought back many pleasant memories for those who had travelled there. The second was a classic filmed in the early forties on western Icelanders living on the prairies in Canada. Some people saw relatives in the film (Shirley Thorsteinson saw her grandfather and one of her aunts!) and everyone saw life as it was on the prairies thirty years ago, with the gorgeous old cars, the impossible roads, the nostalgic farming methods which machinery has replaced.

It was a beautiful film - no one regretted coming out on the hot, sticky Edmonton summer evening after seeing it.

Singing and coffee wound up the evening. Thanks to Jonina Eamon and her helpers who provided the refreshments.

Norway and Canada Sign Agreement on Seal Hunt

An agreement between Norway and Canada regarding seal hunting and the conservation of the seal population in the Northwest Atlantic was signed in Ottawa on July 15. At the same time, an exchange of notes took place regarding Norwegian participation in the fisheries off Canada's Atlantic Coast.

The agreement on seal hunting covers all waters in the Northwest Atlantic north of 45 degrees north-

ern latitude and west of 45 degrees western longitude, and applies to the hunting of Greenland seals. In the agreement, the parties agree to establish a commission which will meet at least once every year. Among the commission's task will be to submit proposals regarding seal hunting and the conservation of the seal population, national catch quotas, opening and closing days

(Continued on Page 5)

SPLINTERS from the BOARD

By Claus Jacobsen

CENTRE QUEEN TAKES FLIGHT

Flight Director Paul Karvonen informs us that Scandinavian Centre Queen 1970 Miss Linda Nelsen left by Air Canada to Copenhagen, Mon., Sept. 13. This trip was given to her by Air Canada as the airline's gift to the Scandinavian Centre Queen. We wish her the best and a sincere "thanks" for representing the Scandinavian Centre as Queen last year.

GARY JOHNSON RESIGNS

The Board has accepted Director Gary Johnson's resignation from the Centre Board effective immediately. Gary Johnson, who was in charge of Centre Operations, left on the Oslo flight July 14 and is presently working in Munich, Germany.

JOINT MEETING

A joint meeting between the five Scandinavian ethnic groups and the Centre Board will be held the second week in October. The meeting is planned to establish a better understanding between the Board and the Societies and Lodges connected to the Centre.

CENTRE KITCHEN MODERNIZED

The dishwasher has arrived for the Scandinavian Centre kitchen and will be installed. The kitchen will then be up to health inspection regulations. With the modern dishwasher and walk-in cooler, the Centre will be able to give the best in catering service. We have the best reputation on food service at reasonable prices. Let's keep it that way so that our investment pays off fast.

Tell your friends and business associates about the Centre and the excellent catering service.

RADIO REPORT

Listen to the Scandinavian Show on Radio Station CFCW every Saturday morning at 10:30 a.m. — 790 on your AM dial.

The Scandinavian Centre Report is broadcast on this program at approximately 11:25 a.m.

For the month of October your reporter will be Scandinavian Centre Managing Editor Les Morris.

Radio Reporter



LES MORRIS

If you have something of interest for the broadcast, give Les a call at 455-4355 between 8 a.m. and 12 noon weekdays.

Scandapades '72 Meeting

Scandinavian Centre Scandapades '72 Co-ordinator Bengt Kristiansson called a meeting of officers and interested persons on Mon., Sept. 20, in order to show prospective films to be used in the Scandapades production.

At the same time he announced several more names of persons doing work for the show. The following is a list:

Overall Co-ordinator — Bengt Kristiansson, 439-1401
Director — Jack McCreath, 229-3927
Script Writer — Les Morris, 455-4355
Stage Manager — Harv Haugen, 489-1171
Narrator — Don Shaw, 489-8260
Property Manager — Claus Jacobsen, 489-1494
Director of Stage Settings — Allan Larsen, 477-7905
Costumes and Makeup — Betty Travis, 455-2059
Musical Director — Del Melsness, 484-4944
Cultural Chairman — Margaret Cameron, 455-2064
Lower Floor Dance Convener — Henry Logan, 434-5343
Secretary and Ushering Convener — May Rushton, 439-5685
Publicity — Knut Svidal, 488-6558
Ticket Sales — Eric Pierre, 455-5708
Treasurer — Herb Vigfusson, 699-7556
Ethnic Groups Co-ordinators —
Danish, Claus Jacobsen (unofficial), 489-1494
Finnish, Mary Karvonen, 455-5570
Icelandic, Margaret Cameron, 455-2064
Norwegian, Del Melsness, 484-4944
Swedish, Gertrude Holmgren, 799-3111

THANKSGIVING

Gather round the table;
Thanksgiving Day is here!
It's time to think of all the gifts
That we have had this year.
It's remembering time for
blessings,
And for thanking God above,
For all His care and patience,
And His watchful tender love.
So gather round the table!
Each one take his place.
Let's bow our heads in thank-
fulness
As father offers grace.
Solveig Paulson Russel

Soap Away

One hundred pounds of motel and hotel soap leftovers have been collected by the Unitarian Service Committee's Charlottetown branch for shipment to Korea, where soap is scarce and expensive for the poorest.

USC headquarters is at 56 Sparks Street, Ottawa.

THE ASSOCIATED COUNTRY WOMEN OF THE WORLD held its 13th world congress in Oslo this year, starting Aug. 10. Some 1,300 delegates from 65 countries participated in the congress, the motto of which was "Pathways to Progress".

Cities Proclaim Leif Eiriksson Day

The following proclamations are Winnipeg, Man., and show that reprinted from "Logberg-Heim—two North American cities are skringla", the Icelandic paper in recognizing "Leif the Lucky".

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS LEIF EIRIKSSON, a Viking discovered the continent of North America in or about the year 1000 A.D.,

AND WHEREAS recent archaeological findings indicate that Leif and other men of Norse ancestry may have established the first European settlements on the eastern seaboard of Canada and may well have entered the region now known as the Province of Manitoba;

AND WHEREAS Scandinavians, the descendants of these early explorers and settlers, have come to this country in large numbers and made a valuable contribution to the building up of the City of Winnipeg and of the country in general;

AND WHEREAS the Viking Club of Winnipeg and other Scandinavian organizations have in the past celebrated Leif Eiriksson Day in the month of October;

AND WHEREAS the President of the United States of America by a Proclamation dated the 2nd day of September 1964 designated the 9th day of October in each year as Leif Eiriksson Day;

AND WHEREAS it is deemed appropriate that this day be celebrated in Winnipeg at the same time as citizens of Scandinavian origin residing in our neighbouring States to the south celebrate the day;

NOW THEREFORE, I, Stephan Juba, Mayor of the City of Winnipeg, in the Province of Manitoba, do in honour of the great explorer and discoverer and in recognition of the achievements of citizens of Winnipeg of Scandinavian origin proclaim Thursday the 9th day of October, 1969 as LEIF EIRIKSSON DAY

DATED at Winnipeg this 8th day of October, 1969.

Mayor
Stephan Juba

PROCLAMATION

Those of Viking descent the world over annually pay tribute to Leif Eiriksson, discover, colonizer, seafarer, explorer and the first European to set foot on the North American Continent 968 years ago.

Leif Eiriksson typifies the courage and determination of the freedom-loving peoples of the North, many of whom traced the routes of the Vikings to pioneer the West and help build our modern America.

The Viking descendants represented in our midst by so many of the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish origin have always cherished their liberties and thus contributed so much to our common democratic heritage which has made for friendship and fellowship between our nation and those of Viking origin.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Joseph L. Alioto, Mayor of the City and County of San Francisco, do hereby proclaim October 12, 1969, as "LEIF EIRIKSSON DAY" in San Francisco and I call upon our citizens to join in the public observance being planned to honour the first outstanding pathfinder of the New World.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City and County of San Francisco to be affixed this twelfth day of October, nineteen hundred and sixty-nine.

JOSEPH L. ALIOTO
Mayor
San Francisco

Hallowe'en was once pagan holiday

In all things traditional, there is more than meets the eye. Take, for example, Halloween.

It all began more than 2,500 years ago among the Celts of ancient France, Ireland, and England. The voice of the Establishment in those dim and distant days were the powerful Druid priests who for centuries practiced their mysterious rites in the caves and forests of prehistoric Gaul and Britain.

The Druids held as sacred the hours of midnight and noon, the oak tree, and the mistletoe. They believed that on Halloween, ghosts, fairies, witches, and elves came out to harm people.

Cats, they taught, were sacred. They had once been human beings, but were changed to feline form as a punishment for evil deeds.

BELIEFS PERSISTED

For generations, these beliefs persisted. The Druids instructed the people, administered justice, and forecast events by interpreting the flight of birds and the markings on the liver and other entrails of sacrificed animals.

There came a time, of course,

when protest groups demanded change. Druidic teachings, they proclaimed, were more than murky. They were downright stifling. There ensued over the years a prolonged fight between priests and protestors. At last the battle ended, and with it the cult's long domination.

Who were the victorious rebels? The early Christians. And what became of Halloween?

The challenge confronting the early church was how to defang the dreaded day without discarding it — how to inspire new followers without creating insults and alienation. With their characteristic genius for supplanting pagan fears and superstition, Christian leaders in the year 700 redefined the day as Allhallow's Eve, or "eve of all the holy ones' day," since it fell before All Saints' Day — an important date on both the present and the medieval Christian calendar.

It was a masterful stroke. Cats and witches, ghosts and elves lived on — but only for amusement. Faith had replaced foreboding.

Hallowe'en is celebrated on the 31st of October.

DEATHS

FINN MOE, Norway's first Ambassador to the United Nations, is dead at 68. Mr. Moe in his long international career also served as a newspaper correspondent and as a press consultant for the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

Norwegian Vice Consul Mr. Cecil A. Ridout has been appointed Consul in Victoria, B.C.

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ICELANDIC NEWSLETTER

By Lillian MacPherson

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friday, October 30:

FALL DANCE. Social event for this season. Come anytime after 8:30 p.m. Bring your friends. It'll be fun!

Last chance to sign up for Icelandic language classes being held at the University of Alberta, Extension Department. They're on Tuesday evenings and being offered by Christopher Hale.

Get your cookbooks while they last. The Ladies' Auxiliary says the supply is getting low, and they are not planning on another printing. The SWINGING COURT-MET, replete with an Icelandic cookery section, makes an excellent kitchen helpmate and is a wonderful gift to your kitchen-loving friends. Only \$1.25. Available from any member of the Ladies' Auxiliary, or by mail from Pearl Valgardson, 6515 112A St., phone 434-6794. 25c mailing charge.

SYMPATHY

The Icelandic Society extends its sympathy to Cam and Freda Smith in the Loss of Mrs. Smith, Cam's mother, who was a life member of our society. The funeral was Wed. July 28.

SAGA SINGERS

The trip to Gimli and Islingurdagurinn at the beginning of August was an exciting and exhausting experience for the participants who left here by chartered bus on Fri. evening July 31 at 7:00 p.m. and arrived in Gimli on Sat. afternoon at 4:00 p.m. The hospitable Gimli residents billeted choir members who didn't have a place to stay. Sunday afternoon the choir entertained at Betel in Gimli to an overflow crowd. Solli Sigurdson joined the choir there with some renditions of his songs. During the official celebrations on Monday, the choir sang two sets of songs on a beautiful sunny day. The performance was well received, which was very gratifying.

Margaret Helgason DeCasse from St. Paul, Alta. was the soloist at the celebration. She also sang with the choir at Betel. She sang "Su rodd var svo fogur"; "Drauma landid"; "Kvoldbein" and "Tarid".

Choir members who made the journey were:

Sopranos: Ninna Campbell, Rosemary Chase from Ft. McMurray, Jo Couves, Mickey Shaw, Margaret DeCasse, Burkie Letourneau from Stoney Plain, Shirley Syms, Shirley Thorsteinson, and Shirley Thorvaldson.

Altos: Thorey Greenham, Lillian MacPherson, Pauline Mitchell, Lucille Oddson, Freda Smith, Nina Smith, Thora Vaughan from California.

Tenors: Al Arnason, Steini Jonsson, Marino Kristjanson, John Olafson from Leduc, Gus Roland, and Gunnar Thorvaldson.

Basses: Arne Arnason, Les Greenham, Cec Couves, Leif Oddson.

Many, many thanks to Della Roland who worked tirelessly with the choir members to get them into fine voice for the trip. Also thanks to Gus Roland who arranged the bus charter for the group. And finally thanks to all the new members who had to learn so many new songs in such a short while, and without whom the trip couldn't have been made.

The Saga Singers are holding a raffle on a sporting rifle or \$150 in cash. The winning ticket is to be drawn at the dance on Fri., Oct. 29. Tickets cost 50c or 3 for \$1.00. Proceeds are to help sub-

sidize the Saga Singers' trips. Tickets are available from any member of the choir.

The dance is being held in the Viking Room of the Scandinavian Centre on Fri., Oct. 29 starting at 8:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale for \$2.50 each and dress is optional.

WELCOME TO EDMONTON

There are two Icelanders recently arrived in Edmonton. They are Lara Gudmundsdottir from Isafjörður and Sigrun Arnalds originally from Reykjavik, who has been studying in England, and has now joined her husband, Ari, here. We hope you both enjoy Edmonton and look forward to meeting you.

PERSONALS

Leigh Syms has accepted a position at the University of Manitoba teaching in the anthropology department. Those who sang with Shirley in the choir will be very sorry to hear that they are not planning to return to Edmonton.

Earl and Pearl Valgardson have been doing a great deal of entertaining this summer. They were pleased to have Earl's brother Chris and his wife June and their four daughters from Gimli, Man., visiting with them in Edmonton. Earl's brother, Jack, also from Gimli, with his wife and sons spent some time in Edmonton on their return from Vancouver. Arlene Valgardson holidayed for a week in Calgary and Brooks, visiting with friends.

Jo and Cec Couves went to Saskatchewan twice in July for Homecoming festivities, once for a reunion of the rural school which Cec attended as a child, and once to Lang, the town Cec is from.

Bill and Tody Halldorson have had many visitors this summer, but when I phoned had gone visiting themselves, to the coast.

Pauline and Alex Mitchell have moved from their house to an apartment. Their new phone number is 488-1395.

Thora Vaughan has relocated in Carneau Towers and her new phone number is 433-5003.

Gunnar Thorvaldson's aunt, Mrs. Solveig Thor, and her daughter, Laurie, from Los Altos, Calif., were visiting in Edmonton on their return from a seven week tour of Iceland.

While in Iceland I spent quite a bit of time in their many bookstores and came home with a suitcase full of books. Most of the translations I bought were novels by Halldor Laxness, likely the best-known Icelandic author. He received the Nobel prize for literature in the 1950's. The only Icelandic writer to have received this honor. He still lives just outside of Reykjavik. I'll be reviewing some of these books elsewhere in the paper for the next few months.

Remember, if you have a news item for the paper, please phone me, Lillian MacPherson, at 422-7557, or send it to 7870 Jasper Avenue.

The city of Larvik was founded in 1671 and is celebrating its 300th anniversary during the months July-August-September.

The five Nordic countries will call upon 14 foreign states, including the Soviet Union, the United States, Great Britain and France, to join in an agreement banning the dumping of industrial waste into the sea.

Travelling In Iceland

By Lillian MacPherson

At the risk of boring you to death, and causing outrage at my unfair use of my position as your correspondent, I should like to tell you my impressions of modes of travel in Iceland.

In the month that we were there, we ended up travelling by bus, car, plane and boat. Buses would get my vote as the most interesting form of travel. There are all kinds of people travelling by bus in Iceland, as it's relatively inexpensive, quite efficient, and interesting.

On a bus going from the south to the north, we met Icelanders going north to work, Icelanders touring, children going to the farms for the summer, and tourists from England, Scotland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, France and Belgium. On one bus we were surrounded by children, who found it quite hilarious to hear me talk my broken Icelandic, and delighted in trying out their English on us. Every time they had a candy (which was constantly) they offered us one.

Bus drivers must be the most resourceful people in Iceland. They must pilot large, modern buses over what could be considered, here, distinctly primitive roads. They must constantly be on watch for sheep on the road, and their high-pitched horns seem to be always going "beep beep" to clear the lambs and ewes from their path. When meeting a car it is almost necessary to come to a dead stop to pass each other because of the narrowness of the road. Bridges also pose a problem because they are so narrow.

I don't think I've ever been more frightened than when we went over an extremely narrow bridge near Godafoss where clearance on each side of the bus couldn't have been more than two inches! People simply stand at crossroads waiting for the bus, so the driver must always be watching for potential passengers. He is also responsible for delivering mail all along the route.

Icelanders must appreciate the difficult job that a bus driver has, as they provide all buses with stewardesses, who look after collecting tickets, count heads after a coffee stop to be sure that no one is being left behind, entertain children, and tend to those who are getting bus sick.

Tour buses out of Akureyri also serve as the local passenger bus and the mail delivery. Very efficient use of resources! We took a freighter from Reykjavik to Akureyri via Vestmannaeyr and around the east side of the island. The boat was the Hekla, a modern state-owned freighter which had six passenger cabins. The other passengers on the boat were from Norway and Iceland.

The food was excellent Icelandic fare, always fish or lamb, with coffee served mid-afternoon and in the evening. The ship was equipped with television and radio for the entertainment of passengers.

At each port it stopped from two to six hours while loading and unloading freight, so we had many nice walks around the towns on the east side, and spent many pleasant hours watching the men loading materials - everything from cars to washing machines! We found the casualness about time very nerve-racking at first, and I always thought we would miss the boat. But the one time that passengers hadn't returned when the boat was ready to leave, the captain sent a car to look for them and bring them back! Highly personalized service.

It was a wonderfully relaxing way to spend five days and see the beautiful coastline of Iceland. We were fortunate that in a couple of ports people met us and drove us

around to see the sights, especially in Vestmannaeyr which are stunningly beautiful.

We only flew once, from Akureyri to Reykjavik. The view of the mountains and glaciers is breathtaking, and we were fortunate to get a clear day. The other time we wanted to fly to Vestmannaeyr, but unfortunately the flight didn't leave because the winds weren't right on the Vestmannaeyr. There is only one runway there, and it's between two mountains, so unless wind conditions are perfect, there are no flights.

The cancellation of this flight caused us some consternation because we were to catch our ship in Vestmannaeyr. Fortunately the steward on the Hekla appreciated our dilemma and allowed us to be deck passengers from Reykjavik until a cabin was available.

Car travel is something else as the roads are dusty, bumpy and narrow. Icelandic car drivers seem to be as resourceful as their bus drivers, though, and we always seemed to arrive at our destination unscathed.



A pious but cranky old lady was greatly annoyed because her neighbors had not asked her to go on their picnic. On the morning of the event they suddenly realized their affront and sent a little boy to ask her to come along. "It's too late now," she snapped. "I've already prayed for rain."

The stork is a bird with a great big bill. He brings us the babies whenever he will. Then comes the doctor and when he is through, You find that he has a big bill, too.

WHEN YOU THINK OF TRAVEL, THINK OF



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VASA LODGE SKANDIA

By Joyce Hawkes

The September meeting was opened at 7:30 p.m. in the Club House at Pigeon Lake by chairman Lennart Petersson.

Visitors at the meeting were Past President George Modin and his wife, Doris, from Buford Lodge and Harold and Lulu Lundgren from Saskatoon.

Members on the sick list are: Linnea Christensen, Evelyn Modin, Winnie Pearson, Anna Sund, Elof Linden, John Jarrett, Michael Skoog, Leonard Eliasson, Oscar Pearson and Tom Pearson.

On Sun., Oct. 3 at 7 o'clock in the Scandinavian Centre, Cultural Leader Bengt Kristiansson is hosting a cultural evening for young and old. Several films will be shown and lunch will be served.

Gertrude Holmgren will be the Lodge coordinator for "Scandapades '72". Talents are thankfully received.

A very nice lunch was served by

Minnie Markstrom, Karen Runcer and Alice Sorensen.

The Pot Luck supper held before the meeting was quite a success and a lot of members stayed for the Bingo in Saskatoon Style.

DATES TO REMEMBER

October 2 — Regular meeting at 7:00 p.m. in the Nordic Room of the Scandinavian Centre. The Merry Widows will entertain.

October 3 — A cultural evening at the Centre starting at 7 p.m.

October 8 — Ladies Auxiliary will meet at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Ed Hinton at 8 p.m. Their address is 7711 — Rowland Road.

October 16 — The Smorgasbord will be held at the Masonic Temple starting at 5:30 p.m. Don Johnson is the coordinator.

November 6 — Regular meeting at 7 p.m. in the Nordic Room at the Centre. The "Young Marrieds" will arrange the entertainment with Carol Banks in charge.

VASA GLIMPSES

Bill, Martha and Joyce Kay visited Harold and Lulu in Saskatoon and also drove to Vancouver.

Congratulations to Terry Knutson on getting honors for 1970-71 violin lessons.

Len and Matt Eliasson visited the Paulsons in Vernon and Matt's brother in Aldergrove.

Dave and Emyline Paulson send greetings to their friends in Edmonton. Congratulations to their son, David, who passed with first class honors in his first year university. Shelly is also entering university this fall.

Bengt Kristiansson wants to thank the members who helped him get that huge tree down on his lot at the lake.

Kenneth Eliasson went to Kamloops to visit his Uncle and Aunt, he also had a trip to Vancouver.

Fred, Ella and Michael Skoog from Lethbridge visited friends and relatives in Edmonton. They also spent a few days at Vasa Club in Magnus Pearson's cabin.

Hannah Sand had a pleasant visit with her cousin in Ladner, B.C.

Mike and Lillian Collins had about 40 visitors this summer from Jacksonville, and Florida, U.S.A. and from Montreal, Quebec.

Andy and Ivy Ogren had a lot of company out at the lake this summer and they all enjoyed swimming and trying to catch fish.

John Ogren spent some time in the Misericordia Hospital as a result of an accident at the lake on Aug. 18. Unfortunately, while doing some building on to his cabin, he had his first and second fingers cut off. Mrs. Ogren says he feels fine now.

Jim Johnson has started University. Gerald Kurz has won an award for Vocational Training — congratulations Gerald.

NOTE: Curling starts around Oct. 22 at the Balmoral Curling Club, 6820 - 116 St., on Friday evenings at 7:00 p.m. Curlers are needed. Please phone Gertrude Holmgren at 799-3111, if you are interested.

The Children's Club starts Oct. 17 at 1:00 p.m. at the Scandinavian Centre.

IMPORTANT NOTICE If you wish to put news of your doings in this column, please contact me, no later than the 14th of the month. Thank you.

Little Brenda: "Mother, why doesn't Daddy have any hair?"

Mother: "Because he thinks so much, dear."

Brenda: "Why do you have so much hair, Mother?"

Mother: "Now run along and play like a nice girl."

Definition of a paradox: Two doctors.

Historic Countryside and Fascinating Coast Make Gothenburg a Fine Excursion Centre

Gothenburg, a major travel goal in its own right, has the added advantage of being splendidly situated in the heart of one of the most fascinating sections of Sweden's fabulous West Coast.

Not far from the port city, in the beautiful archipelago at the mouth of the Gota River a legendary island fortress has been restored and was open to the public May 1 as an added attraction of Gothenburg's 350th anniversary celebration.

The fortress, Nya Alvsborg, dating from the 17th century, was the scene of many historic battles between the Danes and the Swedes as testified by a cannon ball firmly embedded in the massive wall.

Between the first of May and the end of August visitors can join a leisurely boat tour down through the busy harbor to the picturesque archipelago to the fortified island. The tour includes a candle-lit, typical 18th century feast, down in the fort's ancient vaults.

Due north is the elongated Province of Bohus hugging the irregular coastline all the way to the Norwegian border below Oslo. Thousands of rocky islands and skerries, delightful fishing villages, seaside resorts and Sweden's only fjords are among the many attractions of Bohus.

Relics from the Bronze Age, Burial Mounds from the Iron Age and 3000-year-old rock carvings are found on this coast which was once used by the Vikings for raids far afield.

A specialty of the province is Bohus knitwear, beautifully patterned cardigans, mittens and scarfs handknitted by fishermen's wives and sold in leading stores all over the country.

South of Gothenburg is the province of Halland, long and narrow like Bohus, but with miles of beaches softly sculptured with white sand dunes.

The Gothenburg-Malmö highway runs along this coast, making it easy to reach towns such as Kungälv, dating from the 13th century; Varberg, with its ancient fortress where international plays are performed in the courtyard during July; and Falkenberg, a seaside town combining old idylls with modern resort facilities and a salmon-stocked river.

Further along the Halland coast, Tylosand boasts perhaps Sweden's top golf course along with its long beach bordered by high dunes.

Even more to the south, one enters Sweden's breadbasket and another leading playground, the Province of Skåne. Its rich landscape is laced with castles, manor-houses, old country inns, thatched-roof cottages and dainty white stucco churches.

Best known of Skåne's resorts is Bastad, a fashionable seaside oasis and scene of numerous international tennis tournaments, including the Davis Cup matches.

One of Bastad's hotels, Skånegården, is imaginatively built along the lines of a medieval monastery with arcades, cloistered courtyards, rose gardens and fountains.

Outside town are the coasted rock sculptures of Hovs Hallar which Sweden's famed movie director Ingmar Bergman has used as an eerie backdrop in some of his films.

Not far from Bastad is the sleepy but equally fashionable village of Torekov, a fishing hamlet with a colorful harbor that is the departure point for excursions to offshore Hallands Väderö, and island national park noted for its flora and fauna.

Vacationing Swedes themselves

have a special fondness for their west coast, for its sun, its beauty, its fine beaches and clear water, and wide variety of hotels and restaurants.

No matter whether you travel north or south of Gothenburg the sea is close at hand and a stunning landscape is studded with pleasant surprises.

OUR ILLOGICAL LANGUAGE

From Co-Op News

We'll begin with a box, and the plural is BOXES.

But the plural of ox is oxen, not OXES,

Then one fowl is goose, but two are called GEESE,

Yet the plural of moose should never be MEESE.

You may find a lone mouse or a whole lot of MICE,

But the plural of house is houses, not HICE.

If the plural of man is always called MEN,

Why shouldn't the plural of pan be called PEN?

The cow in plural may be cows or KINE,

But the plural of vow is vows, not VINE,

And if I speak of a foot and you show me your FEET,

And I give you a boot, would a pair be called BEET?

If one is a tooth and a whole set is TEETH,

Why shouldn't the plural of booth be called BEETH?

If the singular is this, and the plural is THESE,

Should the plural of kiss be nicknamed KESE?

Then one may be that, and three would be THOSE,

Yet hat in the plural would never be HOSE.

And the plural of rat is rats, not ROSE.

We speak of a brother and also of BRETHREN,

But though we say mother, we never say METHREN.

The masculine pronouns are he, his and HIM,

But imagine the feminine, she, shis, and SHIM.

So English, I think, you will all AGREE,

Is the most wonderful language you ever did SEE.

So That's Why

There were two Indian braves, Falling Rock and Flying Eagle, who were both courting the chief's beautiful daughter.

The chief announced that his daughter's hand would go to the brave who returned to the camp by new moon time with the most game.

So Falling Rock and Flying Eagle left camp in different directions to prove their hunting skills.

On the eve of the new moon, Flying Eagle appeared dragging three toboggans loaded with game. But Falling Rock didn't even show up, so the old chief conceded, and Flying Eagle married the fair maiden.

And to this day, no one knows what happened to Flying Eagle's competitor. In fact, they are still looking for him.

So that's why, when driving in the mountains, you often see signs here and there reading: "Watch out for Falling Rock!"

SMILE

"A fat lady glared at the other passengers on the bus and demanded, 'Isn't anyone going to offer me a seat?' A farm lad jumped up and replied, 'I'm willing to make a contribution.'"

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RONNING LODGE

ON PARADE

By Edith Molstad

COMING EVENTS

Saturday, Oct. 16, 8:30 p.m.

Family Barn dance and Box social to be held in Ken Nyback's barn. Follow the "Nursette" signs — 4 miles north, 3 west and ½ mile north. The Rhythm Ranch Boys will be playing old time music, come dressed in country style. The Ladies are to bring box lunches, enough for two. These will be auctioned off. Tickets are \$1.00 per person, under 15 years, free. Tickets may be obtained in advance from any member of the executive. Please get your tickets before Oct. 9.

Wednesday, Oct. 20, 8 p.m.

Ronning Lodge will hold their General meeting in the Camrose Lutheran College Cafeteria at 8 p.m.

Wednesday, Nov. 17, 8 p.m.

This will be the night for the November general meeting. Plans for the meeting will be set later. Saturday, Nov. 13

The annual Lutefisk supper will be held Sat. Nov. 13 at Camrose Lutheran College Cafeteria.

Ronning Lodge entered a beautifully decorated car in the Camrose Fair Parade. Some members of the Ladies Drill Team rode in the car, others marched beside it. Uddo Johansson, our own "Viking", was the star of the parade. He made a terrific impression dressed in his "Viking" costume.

SICK COMMITTEE

For the past month Wayne Gaa-laas has been very ill in the University Hospital in Edmonton. Showing a little improvement in health he was allowed home for the week end. However, he is to return Sept. 15 for further treatment



UDDO JOHANSSON in Camrose Fair Parade.

and tests. . . .

Norwegian Language Classes will start in November. Contact Georg Moi at phone No. 672-3082 Camrose.

Norway and Canada

(Continued from Page 1)

of the season, humane hunting methods, and methods to prevent the animals from being subjected to brutality or made to suffer. Furthermore, the commission will be empowered to submit proposals regarding the establishment of inspection and control arrangements as well as proposals regarding scientific investigations in connection with seal hunting.

According to the agreement, Norwegian rights to seal hunting are ensured until the end of 1978.

The note exchange on fisheries established that up to 20 Norwegian vessels shall be permitted to fish for cod by long-line in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, from Aug. 15 to Dec. 15, until Jan. 1, 1975. The vessels must not fish closer to shore than 12 miles. Except for the above, Norwegian vessels shall not participate in fisheries in Canada's territorial waters or in any other section of Canada's fisheries zone.

The Typographical Error

The Typographical error is a slippery thing and sly, You can hunt 'til you are dizzy, but it somehow will get by. 'Til the forms are off the presses, it is strange how still it keeps, It shrinks down in the corner, and it never stirs or peeps. The typographical error too small for human eyes, 'Til the ink is on the paper, When it grows to mountain size. The boss just stares with horror, then he grabs his hair and groans; The copy reader drops her head upon her hands and moans; The remainder of the issue may be as clean as it can be, But that typographical error is the only thing you see!

The Co-op News

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I am a member in good standing of the Scandinavian Centre Co-operative Assoc. Ltd. Yes ☐ No ☐

Date _____ Signature _____

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NorSweDen

(Continued from Page 1)

but late according to our stamina and around 8 p.m. something must have awakened us both at the same time. I looked at my watch just as Beth asked what time it was.

I said: "Eight o'clock."

She asked: "Eight at night, or eight in the morning?"

I was puzzled for I did not know and could not tell. Although I have a date dial on my watch, it usually changes earlier than midnight due to some peculiarity, so we were both confused. Even looking out the window did not help — it could have been either.

However, we finally fell exhaustedly back to sleep and woke up 12 hours later when we knew then for sure it was eight in the morning.

The Oslo Student Town and Summer Hotel is only 12 minutes by train from Oslo city centre and the Hotel proper is a modern 700-bedroom building on the edge of a wooded area with baths, fishing and other outdoor sports. There is also the Congress Centre, a few minutes walk from the hotel, which has played host to a number of international conferences and important meetings, and has a capacity of 1,200 persons. The buildings include a fully-licensed restaurant, a cafeteria, coffee lounge and grill, large Congress Hall, assembly rooms, information bureau and steam baths.

We could have been comfortable

enough here but I had not heard of its fame prior to arriving and I preferred to get closer to the city centre.

After studying a map of Oslo which I had brought along I decided that the Norum Hotel, 53 Bygdoy Alle, would be an ideal place because it was near Frogner Park where I knew we would be going eventually.

The Norum Hotel is located about 10 minutes by bus from Oslo city centre in the most fashionable part of the town, Bygdoy Alle — an avenue noted for its famous chestnut trees — and only 5 minutes walk from the world-known Vigeland sculptures in Frogner Park. It is well known for its excellent kitchen and for its amiable staff. The hotel comprises 60 nice single and double rooms, dining room and reception rooms — restaurant and bar. Among the furniture are to be found a number of valuable antique pieces, which in a charming manner set off the modernistic impression of the ensemble. It is owned by Mrs. Gjertrud Brodtkork.

The Student Town room had cost us 69.00 NK (Norwegian Kroners) (about \$9.65) including breakfast, but now at the Norum we were to pay 170.00 NK (\$24.00) a night just for the room. A double room is one with two single beds. To make a double bed, they still shove the two together, but still with separate covers.

All through our journey in Nor-

SweDen we were to be plagued by these beds. We never did get a true double bed, and the cover consists of a single size eiderdown tied at one end. During the summer they are so hot you can't bear it on, then when you throw it off you get cold. I constantly sweated and froze until during the end of the trip I untied the end and slipped the eiderdown out and put the cotton slipcover over me. It always reminded me of someone wearing a parka in Edmonton in the middle of summer.

The plungers for the toilets were interesting, too. You never did know where you were going to find it next. There were at least a half dozen different places we found.

Shaving with my 110 volt electric razor was difficult, too. Before I left I ordered a transformer for it, but it was going to weigh something like 7 lbs. I didn't buy it.

The first morning I tried to use my razor but I tripped the fuse when I plugged it in. I was lucky I didn't burn out my razor. I was always cautious thereafter to see if there was a plug that said 110 volts rather than the 230 volts normally used in Europe. There were some hotels and some trains which had these special outlets for travellers from North America, but you still had to have a special adaptor to fit on the razor plug. The Norum Hotel fortunately had such an outlet, and I had such an adaptor.

Breakfast, as I mentioned, was included in our hotel room at the Student Town but we had to wait about an hour before we could get a table as there were numerous other travellers and tourists. We finally shared a table with a young wife and her small son. We learned that she was from Toronto. She had just returned with her husband from the far north to see the midnight sun. They had also visited Stavanger and it was from her that we learned how to pronounce the name correctly. She also told us about pensions and private home accommodation.

Pensions, we learned later, were less expensive hotels. It seems to me, as I look back after staying in several, that they were reconverted apartment blocks. Private home accommodation is just that. Some people rent out rooms in their homes for tourists like they do at Banff. They are much cheaper although we never did use this method ourselves.

Having made arrangements by telephone with the Norum Hotel we took a taxi there and settled in. I was determined to get a good, comfortable room for at least one night in order to get straightened out after our journey across the ocean. We intended to stay only one night and look for a cheaper place but we stayed two.

Had I been a little more observant we could have gone just across the street to a pension hotel a day earlier than we did. This was the Hotel Pension Hall, where we also stayed two days. Their room cost 65.00 NK (\$9.20) a night not including breakfast, which was 11.00 NK (\$1.50) each. At the Norum breakfast was 18.00 NK (\$2.50) each.

These breakfasts were quite substantial meals and included cereal (corn flakes or instant porridge), coldcuts of meat, fish (cooked and pickled), boiled eggs, bread (several different kinds from fresh to hard) jam, honey, stewed fruit, milk, tea or coffee. It was truly a feast, and delicious, but sometime the hot food was cold from lying on the table in the smorgasbord type custom, but then you could eat as much as you wanted. I fell in love with the coffee — strong and delicious — although it played havoc with my tummy drinking too much of it.

After booking into the Norum I thought we might walk around until we found a place where I could have a beer. I was to be disappointed and we had gone in the opposite direction to city centre.

Although we had no difficulty with the hotel people speaking English, we soon learned that there were a lot of persons who could not speak it as we enquired at different places for directions. Finally we found a young fellow waiting for a streetcar who told us in good English how to get to the city centre by streetcar — the very one he was taking. It seems that the younger people can speak English because it is taught in schools now, whereas the older people did not have this chance.

The streets seem to wander in all directions and never seem to go very far in a straight line. Some are, only a block long, with a name all to itself, as they run into each other. This made a map difficult to follow. They are usually cobble stone and very narrow, although the main ones are quite wide. Until you get out to the outskirts of town, the buildings are usually joined together and run for blocks.

It was a long time since I had ridden on a streetcar (or trolley as they call them) and we were soon in the city centre. I could tell because we ran smack into a scene I had seen many times in pictures — the Continental Hotel with the S.A.S. sign on top. I had wondered just where the picture had been taken from and as we got off the streetcar I saw that it was a park and was later to learn that it was the grounds of the Royal Palace. The National Theatre was across the street.

We went into the Hotel Continental Cafeteria and I had my first Norwegian beer. Beer is only served in cafeterias or restaurants. There are a few pubs or places which sell beer only, but they are the exception, like Andy's Pub down the street. The large draft beer (fatol) cost 9.00 NK (\$1.20) as I recall. I found it good tasting, but expensive. Although prices varied at different places, I found drinking an expensive item and I usually confined it to beer. Apparently they have high taxes on luxuries.

Because I hadn't been able to shave since arriving, I went to the barber shop in the hotel where I was shaved with a safety razor, not too expertly, either. Like here, shaving by barbers is a past art.

We bought a detailed map of the city in the book store beside the barber shop in the hotel and commenced to explore the city of Oslo.

First we went to a bank and changed a \$50 travellers cheque. The exchange was 7.08 NK per American dollar. I got 354.00 NK, less 2.00 NK for service charge, so I wound up with 352.00 NK for my \$50. I also got a slide rule type of money converter which had about 20 different countries in Europe, showing the relative value of money for each country.

This was to be a boon to me throughout our trip, for I was able to assess the value of everything in dollars. The value of the dollar was different in the three countries we visited.

As we walked down the street we ran into the city hall, a huge modern building with its two towers facing the waterfront. In the front there is a park like area with a nude statue in each corner with a huge tall statue in the middle — two nude women holding hands with two nude children.

During our travels were were to find many statues, and most of them nudes. To a western Canadian this is quite interesting.

Close by is the West City Railway Station. On the water front we noticed several ships, large and

BUFORD NEWS

By Wanda Markstedt

The August meeting of Buford Lodge No. 577 was rather poorly attended with the farmers being very busy this time of year.

The season has also been a busy one for the Vasa Bridal Crown. Mr. & Mrs. Ronald Gray, nee Beverley Kvarnberg, were married on July 31. Beverley looked beautiful in her lovely sheer gown topped with the Vasa Crown on her veil of nylon tulle. The reception was held in Leduc and the two are making their home in Calgary.

On Sept. 4 Calmar Hall was the scene of another lovely wedding when Jo Ann Markstedt and Dan Denman were married. Jo Ann's gown was of traditional white satin with a slight train and she also wore the Vasa Crown with her three-tiered tulle veil. They are making their home in Edmonton where they are both employed.

Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Pearson are happy to have their son, Danny, back home after his lengthy stay in hospital following an accident with a lawn mower.

Floyd and Peggy Modin, Lillian Kromm, Irma Anderson and Margaret Eliasson attended the social in Lone Ridge Hall sponsored by the Nordstjernan Lodge of Falun.

Mrs. Anna Lewis of Sacramento, Calif., again visited her brothers, Eric and Emil Kvarnberg, and their families for a few weeks this summer. Eric took the car and, with Anna accompanying him, motored to Nelson, B.C., to visit their other sister and her husband, Elsie and Arlund Simmons.

Congratulations to Chris and Carol Vaage on the birth of a daughter. Proud grandparents are Clair and Avis Pearson.

Shelly Modin was the lucky winner of a side of beef raffled off by the Calmar Light Horse Association.

Clare and Alice Evanson enjoyed a pleasant holiday travelling through Banff, Spokane and parts of Idaho.

Albin and Wanda Markstedt, accompanied by Wanda's sister and brother in law, Caroline and John Chemera, enjoyed a few days in the Vernon-Kamloops area recently.

Mrs. Hildur Pearson has had the misfortune to injure her back and has spent some time in the hospital. Emil Kvarnberg has also been "under the weather". We wish them both a speedy recovery.

Plans are well underway at present for a Beerfest, Social and Dance in Calmar Hall Oct. 16. Tickets are available from most Buford Lodge members.

small. Many were small touring boats, one of which we took the next day. One of the larger ships was the famous, beautiful Norwegian training ship, Christian Radich, the tall, fully-rigged, sailing boat which is used to train boys in seamanship. Later I learned that it may have to be sold because of financial difficulties.

Studying the map and following it as best we could, we finally got to the tourist information bureau where we got information about tours, more maps and information pamphlets.

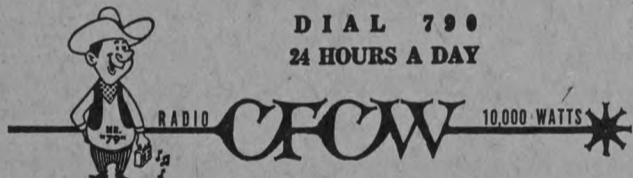
After looking over the different tours we decided to take the "Grand Tour of Oslo". It's an ideal combination of fjord cruise and sightseeing by coach, including a 2½ hour tour by boat, visits to the Polar Ship Fram, the Kon-Tiki Raft, the Norsk Folkemuseum (one hour's stay for lunch), the Viking Ships, the Vigeland sculptures in Frogner Park and the Holmenkollen Ski Jump. Departure time daily at 10:30 a.m., returning at 6 p.m. Period May 15 - Sept. 20. Price: Adults

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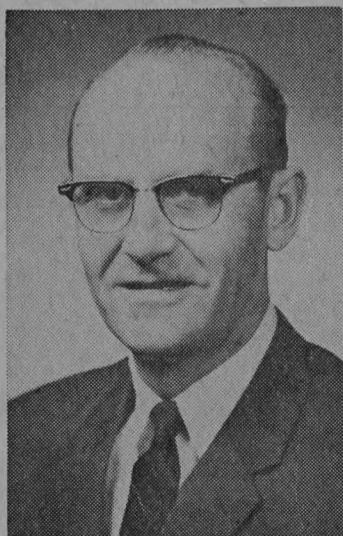
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Dr. T. O. Walhovd

On October 13th Vote Dr. T. O. Walhovd for Public School Board

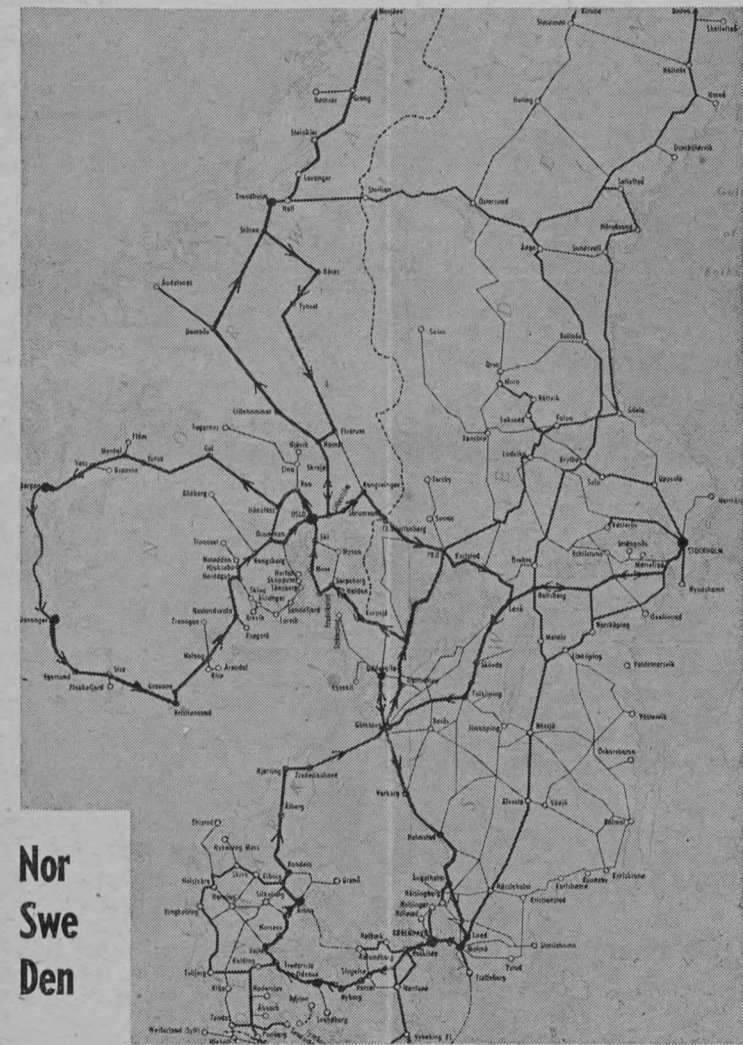
(Authorized by the Dr. Walhovd Campaign Committee)

65 NK (\$9.10) (exclusive of lunch); children 30 NK (\$4.20). We would leave the next morning from just in front of the city hall at the waterfront.

We spent the rest of the day familiarizing ourselves with the city centre. We walked (this is the only way to see anything) back to the Continental Hotel and went down Stortings Gata to Students Park. We sat at an outside cafeteria and I had a beer while we watched the people eating smorbrods, an open faced sandwich containing everything and anything. My favorite (but not my wife's) was the pickled herring smorbrod.

The main street of Oslo, Karl Johans Gate, was on the other side of the park and we walked down it to see the stores and looked up to the west and saw the Royal Palace in Dronning Park. We did not visit it that day but went east as far as it went and ran into East City Railway Station.

I was impressed with the cleanliness of the streets themselves. Even the outdoor cafeterias, such as the one in Students Park, were immaculately clean and sanitary. The stores and shops are side by side joining until separated by a street, not too tall but substantially so. They are made of brick or stone.



Map of NorSweDen with arrows showing route taken through Norway, Sweden and Denmark.

Walking down Karl Johans Gate, Beth saw a Norwegian sweater she wanted to buy me, but I wouldn't let her, saying we had better wait until we returned on our way home for fear of running out of money. It cost 154.00 NK (\$21.50), and it was a beautiful sweater, but it seemed like a lot of money then. She finally did get it before we left for Canada because she had made her mind up to save enough for it. I was lucky to make my money last until I boarded the plane. I cherish it to this day for it is a wonderful souvenir.

Because we were going to have a busy sightseeing day the next day, we decided to go back to the hotel and have dinner there and go to bed early. I had not gotten over our trip yet and was trying to fight off sleep.

As I recall we had boiled fish for dinner, and since returning I've been trying to make it just that

50th Birthday

Mr. John Sahuri will celebrate his 50th birthday on October 3rd, 1971.

He was born one of twins in Padasjoki, Finland, 50 short years ago. The family of seven children includes two sets of twins.

In the summer of 1951 John came to Canada after living a while in Sweden. Moose Jaw, Sask., was his first home town in Canada and from there he came to Edmonton in 1955. Here he joined the Finnish Society and has been an active member for many years.

John is a bricklayer, but unlike the shoemaker who doesn't make shoes for his children, John has been busy with bricks, blocks and stone, making things for his family to enjoy.

He is also an outdoorsman — fishing, hunting and camping — with his family whenever possible, and the family enjoys it all very much.

With these few words I wish to extend the Best Wishes to you, John, on behalf of all your Friends. Happy Birthday, John. I think you are wonderful.

— A.S.

FINNISH SOCIETY

By Anne Sahuri

Good luck and best wishes to Matti and Elfriede Lehtiniemi who recently moved to Lethbridge, Alta., to make their new home there.

Marja Laine, who lived in Edmonton for about two years, left for Finland recently. Prior to leaving, Marja was honoured by several small parties, gifts and cards given by her many friends she acquired while here. She was studying at the University of Alberta towards her Ph. D. in Political Science, taking courses in International Law, International Organization, International Politics and European Comparative organization during the past year. Best of luck to you, Marja. We all hope that your future will be a Happy one.

Best wishes to Diane Salomaa who left recently for Finland to spend a year studying at University of Helsinki.

Mrs. Anna-Liisa Laitinen of Kotka, Finland, was recently in Edmonton visiting Mr. & Mrs. Niska Aro and family and Heikki Laitinen.

"A big thank you to Marja Laine for the wonderful job she did within the Finnish Society as a capable and conscientious secretary."

— Executive

"I wish to thank the president and the executive of the Finnish Society for the understanding and the co-operation which was always present in our work together during the past two years. At the same time many thanks to Maria Utunen and Elsa Heinonen and all the others who remembered me when I left Edmonton in the form of small parties, gifts, cards and good wishes. Many thanks to all those friends who spent the last evening with me prior to my leaving Edmonton."

— Marja Laine

Mr. & Mrs. Arvi Liimatainen went canoeing at Bowron Lake Provincial Park in B.C. and later motored to Vancouver, returning home through Banff where they enjoyed the fabulous mountain views.

Ristolais, Sahuris and M. Utunen went camping at Wolf Lake, Alta., during the long weekend. The ladies enjoyed good fishing while the men didn't seem to mind a few flat tires.

Congratulations and best wishes to Hurskainens of Thorhild on their newly opened country dance hall. It was reported that the opening night was a big success with slippery floors and good music.

Mrs. Tyyne Liimatainen visited her daughter, Miss Doris Liimatainen, at Calgary recently.

Best wishes to Mr. Jack Luoma on his special birthday on Oct. 3, when Mr. Luoma will celebrate his 85th birthday.

Happy Birthday to Mr. John Sahuri who will celebrate his 50th birthday on Oct. 3rd.

The opening dance of Finnish Society will be held on Nov. 6 at the Scandinavian Centre, Dania Room. Everyone is welcome.

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SOLGLYT SPOTLIGHT



By Dorothy Willmore

Schang Halberg spent the summer with four of his daughters at the West coast, where he celebrated his 81st birthday Aug. 1. He motored back with his daughter, Mrs. Levina Loades of Ryley, granddaughter and husband, Mr. and Mrs. Marvin Tiedeman, and great-grandchildren of Calgary. They travelled through Washington, Idaho and Montana to Yellowstone National Park and visited Schang's hometown of Adams, North Dakota before returning to Calgary.

Ernie and Ellie Sandstrom with their children, Kevin and Kathy, enjoyed an extensive motor trip down the coast to California. They spent several days touring Disneyland and also visited Tijuana, Mexico. On their return home through Nevada they found the temperature extremely hot.

Would those interested in bowling on a regular basis or as a spare please get in touch with any of the following team Captains: Thor Berg; Arne Gulbrandsen; Peter Hansen; Betty McKevitt; Andy Mjaatveit; Thore Selvig; Lloyd Steen; Myrtle Travis, or phone Lois Halberg at 466-9344.

Bowling starts Sept. 14 at the Windsor.

We are very pleased to report that Ruth Wibe has returned home after a stay in hospital. We wish her a speedy return to health.

Dick Larsen had the pleasure of a visit from his son, Walter, and his Granddaughter, Nancy, from Hamilton, Ont., this summer.

Sig and Selma Sorenson are pleased to announce they are Grandparents once again. Bob and Lorraine welcomed a son, Rodney Sigurd, on Aug. 25.

There are great plans being made for a wonderful skiing season this winter. If you are interested please contact Bob Haagenen or Lorraine Prazak.

At the last Torske Clubben meeting Anders Aalborg was the guest speaker. His topic was "Political Parties From 1905 To The Present". It was enjoyed by those attending.

COMING EVENTS:

Sons of Norway is planning a big Leif Erickson Fest for Sat., Oct. 23. The evening will begin with a sumptuous smorgasbord in Leif Erickson style followed by a program and dancing. Members should note that tickets are limited and must be purchased in advance. For tickets phone 466-1839 or 455-5371 or 488-6558.

It isn't too early to begin making plans to attend the annual Lutfisk Supper on Nov. 20. It is to be held in the Masonic Temple with a program and dance to follow the supper.

Your correspondent for next month will be Mrs. Eva Berg. Please phone your news to her at 489-6108.

Travelling In Scandinavia

By Gary Johnson

One month has passed at the time I am writing since I arrived here. I just saw the Scandinavian Centre Charter Flight off on its flight home.

As I sat and exchanged experiences of the month with them I had the inclination to jump on the plane, too, but some wonderful experiences are ahead in the days to come and I'll be reporting to you as I go.

Tonight I went to the harness races — Norwegian style — and it was quite an experience. I colared a Norwegian into showing me how to play the horses.

Their system is quite different from ours but it has one thing very much in common — you usually lose. After losing 30 Norwegian Kroners (just over \$4.00) I left to say "goodbye" to a distant cousin living in Oslo.

I had spent five delightful evenings with Brujnalf and Anner Markussen and their three children. I was treated royally. Those of you who have visited relatives or friends in Scandinavia will know what I mean.

While you are with them, you become one of the family with no reservedness whatsoever.

The seasons of the year here are very similar to ours in terms of arrival of spring, etc., and cold, cold winters.

There are some major differences in the way of life that I noted. For instance, automobiles are taxed very heavily by the state and Norwegians must pay dearly for even a used car.

Being in the car business I was interested to hear this. That is why a very high percentage of Norwegian families do not own automobiles.

Transportation facilities in Oslo are very good. There are two underground subways, electric street cars and diesel buses. Also, because of the large number of people without cars, there are over 2,000 taxis.

Liquor is also very heavily taxed by the state and a 26 oz. bottle of whisky that we would buy for \$6.00 at home is over \$10.00 in Norway. A half liter (approx. one pint) of Pilsner draught beer (about 3% in strength) is 90 cents. A package of 20 cigarettes is 90 cents. A half dozen eggs is 50 cents. Fruit is very expensive as well.

Now here are some of the prime advantages of Norway over Canada:

A new three bedroom home in Norway sells for about \$18,000.00 here which is equivalent to a \$23,000.00 home in Edmonton, although the standards are not as strict here, such as exterior wiring for fixtures and lights, etc.

Nice apartments can be rented here for \$35.00 to \$60.00 while one of the same size and class in Edmonton will be \$100.00 to \$150.00.

The people themselves are quite similar to us, although they are living quite happily with much less than we have.

They have not been subjected to the mass media of advertising that we have, largely due to the fact that there is only one state owned television station that operates merely six hours a day with the complete absence of advertising. The majority of their programs are informative and educational ones.

A Canadian taking up residence in Norway would have to make many adjustments in his way of living.

Northern Norway seems even more unaffected by the enormous changes and developments in our social living. The people are happy and relaxed. They marry young and work hard at what they do.

Again I emphasize a very keen interest in family bonds. This is exemplified by the collection of family pictures and their knowledge of all of their relations, their names, addresses, number of children, ages, etc. — something that we in Canada do not put as much emphasis on anymore.

I left Oslo at 5 p.m. (Wed., Aug. 11) aboard the steamship Kong Olav V on a 15 hour voyage to Copenhagen. It is a very big ship and I enjoyed the trip very much as it was my first journey by boat.

The ship had a bar, 3 restaurants, 3 observation decks, a tax free tobaccon, liquor and candy store. I spent a lot of time on deck observing the beautiful scenery before we reached open water.

I shared a cabin with a Norwegian on his way to Copenhagen on his vacation. We had a great talk. He is around 60 years old and has a wife and two sons. He spoke Norwegian and Danish, could talk English but not understand very much, so I had to talk to him in Norwegian and he would reply in Norwegian and some English.

I had discovered that Danes can understand Norwegian. I was told by many people that this was not true but I have talked to Danes in Norwegian and they understand, and if they talk slowly enough, I can understand them.

Getting back to housing, most Norwegians cannot afford houses, but almost all of them have summer cottages at one of the many lakes. They love the outdoors and walking long distances means nothing to them.

I like Copenhagen. My hotel is right on the main "sex street" of the city where all the books are as well as the live shows. By the way, I didn't plan it that way, it was just a reasonably priced hotel recommended by the Dane I met on the ship.

So far I have seen Tivoli Gardens — beautiful place — the palace, also. There are many nice taverns but you must watch as the price for the same brand of beer will vary between them.

Another thing I noticed in Norway — all the homes I visited had the old fashioned chime clocks, those that ring out on the hour and half hour.

I feel very relaxed and at ease in Denmark — I can't really say why.

Why Ski In Norway?

Ski is an old Norse word! (So is slalom!) It was here that this great sport was born, and it was from here that it spread all over the world.

Proof that the descendants of the skier depicted in a 4000 year old rock carving near Trondheim have not lost their knack was given in the 1968 Winter Olympics when Norway placed first among the participating nations. Although most of the medals were raked up in Nordic disciplines, the emphasis at numerous Norwegian resorts is on slalom and downhill skiing. The two best are Voss and Geilo.

Here you will find all the facilities that make up a paradise for beginners, intermediate and advanced skiers.

Plenty of daylight and sunshine are necessary ingredients in a good skiing vacation. Central Norway has 8 hours of daylight in January, 10 in February, 12 in March and 15 in April.

What's more, the area enjoys an unusually dry and healthy winter climate without undue cold. The winter is more solar than polar. Even so you will generally find powder snow at these resorts until beginning of April. (The regular

slopes are of course machine packed after every snowfall.)

At both places there are excellent ski schools with from 15 to 35 instructors. Are you aware that the same way of skiing is now taught all over the U.S. and Europe? Only the methods differ! And here you will find instructors that are patient and they do speak English. If you are a beginner you will find them great — and not less so if you happen to be an expert and still catch an edge too often.

Speaking of languages — you will have no problems off the slopes either. English is widely spoken and understood since it's on every school curriculum! And everywhere there is a genuine hospitality and a friendly desire to help.

Today's cost of air transportation for skis etc. is surely low. But you can't go wrong if you rent them locally either. What about Heads, step-in release bindings, top buckle boots and poles at \$12.70 for 6 days! (Voss)

And food is an appetizing inspiration!

The "apres-ski" life is well organized and varied (only the swank

(Continued on Page 9)



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(Continued from Page 8)

night spots are missing).

The shopping is great too. Even in the villages you'll find the shops aglow with colorful treasures. And what is more logical than to buy a reasonable Norwegian ski sweater at the place where it is made?

For a truly great skiing holiday this year — choose Norway. You'll have a ball!

Voss and Geilo are the leading ski resorts in Norway, two famous mountain villages on the Bergen-Oslo railroad, which provides the most scenic railroad trip in Europe. These two mountain villages offer ample snow, several skilifts, expert ski schools and good hotels with a varied program of after-ski activities.

VOSS

In Voss skiing means skiing complete.

Variety is the key: a gondola, chair lifts, and T-bars form a lift complex serving slopes for beginners as well as expert skiers. A network of ski touring trails and routes are open invitations to the discovery of true Nordic ski touring. A large authorized ski school, modern snow-packing equipment and a ski jump complete the picture to make Voss the skiingest town in a skiing country.

But there is more to Voss than skiing alone. Relaxation in the Norwegian way is the by-word. With swimming, "badstu" baths (Norwegian Sauna), informal dancing, ice skating and relaxed entertainment, Voss offers an entirely different dimension in after-skiing. Short excursion to the Sognefjord (longest and deepest in the world) and Hardangerfjord area can be arranged.

GEILO

Geilo is located half way between Oslo and Bergen. (By express train appr. 3½ hrs. from each city.) Excellent skiing in all kinds of terrain. Two chair lifts, 5 T-bar lifts. Largest ski school in Norway, (35 instructors). Floodlit slopes, skating and curling rinks. Snowpacking equipment. Ski rental shops. "Snow-nursery" with trained nurses.

Delightful village, 20 hotels and pensions. Well organized apres-ski activity. Winter festival held the last two weeks of January.

DENMARK

Some famous Danes you ought to know

Absalon (1128 - 1201). Archbishop and Statesman. By birth belonging to one of the oldest and most distinguished noble families of Denmark, he was brought up and educated together with the grandson of King Eric Ejegod, Valdemar, in collaboration with whom, when the latter became king (Valdemar the Great), he united and rebuilt the kingdom of Denmark after 12 years of faction and civil war.

In his youth he studied theology for some years in Paris, and on his return home he was made Bishop of the diocese of Roskilde. Long periods of the life of Absalon were spent in wars against the German Wends, and fighting Frederic Barbarossa and King Bugislav of Pomerania.

Around his fortified castle at the shores of the Sound he founded the town of HAVN, today the capital of Denmark (Copenhagen). His business as a statesman, however, never made him forget that he was first and foremost a servant of the Church.

In 1178 he was made Archbishop of Lund and in that capacity worked out and put into effect the Church law of Sealand.

To Absalon is due the major part of the credit for the spiritual culture of the kingdom of Denmark of that time. His last years were

DANIA DOINGS



By Vera Nielsen

Remember the Dance and Banquet on Sat., Oct. 16 at the Viking Room. The supper will commence at 7:00 p.m. and the menu will be "Flaesksteg, Medisterpolse, Rodkaal, etc. — Dessert and Coffee". Get your tickets early as there will only be a limited number sold. Get your tickets from any Board member or phone 454-5438 — but do it now, the sale will close Oct. 14. SO DO IT NOW!

We do like to see you all come out to this gala evening, the Soccer Trophies will be presented.

We were glad to see so many came out for our first Whistdrive of the season and hope to see still more next time, Tues., Oct. 19 at 8:00 p.m.

All you members have a very important date — Wed., Oct. 27 at 8:00 p.m., DANIA ROOM for the Annual Meeting. After the meeting coffee will be served. Decide who you want to see as a director for the next year or two, then come with your vote. Election will be for a President, 3 directors, 2 suppliants, and 2 Auditors.

The present directors are as follows:

President, Claus Jacobsen; Treasurer, Borge Hansen; Secretary, Vera Nielsen; Birthe Nielsen, Frovin Sorensen, Thomas Nielsen and

Thousand Year Old Ice Pure

From "Denmark Review"

Ice made from snow that fell in remote Greenland thousands of years ago, long before factory smoke-stacks began to pollute the world's atmosphere, is the latest accessory to the well-furnished bar.

"Ice Cap Rocks" which are marketed by The Royal Greenland Trade Department, come from the huge Greenland Ice Cap, which has been formed as snow fell and packed down on Greenland during thousands of years. As it packed down, mixed with air, the weight of later snowfalls compressed the snow into steelhard ice and the air into pearly bubbles which burst with a click when the ice melts.

At Jakobshavn, on Greenland's west coast, a huge glacier sends more than 20 million tons of the ice cap out to sea every day, and it is here that the Royal Greenland Trade Department gathers its Ice Cap Rocks. Blocks of the compressed snow are collected, crushed and packed before being sent along a cold chain to Europe and the United States.

The sparkling sound of ice-

Tage Aaquist.

Come forward with your nomination. Remember the date Wed., Oct. 27. Hope you will all be interested in the welfare of your club, so we will see you there.

"BIKUBEN" will meet Mon., Oct. 18 at 7:30 p.m., 12424 - 141 Street.

BOOK REVIEW

Independent People

By Halldor Kiljan Laxness
(New York, Knopf, 1946)

A Novel of large proportions depicting the life of a poor crofter in Iceland in the last part of the 19th century and the early twentieth century.

Bjartur of Summerhouses is determined to be independent, debt-free and beholden to no one. He struggles in his miserable little house with ailing wives, sickly children, and little fresh food, attempting to develop a good flock of sheep. He is a reserved, private man whose only emotional outlet is the poetry he composes. There are few pleasures in his life or in the lives of his family and his immense stubbornness seems to contribute to the tragedy of their existence. There are optimistic days in his life, but these are controlled by the general economy of the land.

The flower of Bjartur's life is his oldest daughter, Asta Solilja, who grows to adulthood in the book. All the other characters are pale next to these two, but we do meet all the different kinds of people in the community and feel their power and learn to know their idiosyncracies.

For Icelanders in Canada this book is especially interesting to read because many of our forebears likely lived in similar conditions to Bjartur, or perhaps more like others in the community. It is also interesting to see similarities in personalities to people in our own families, and to smell the coffee brewing in the morning and to taste the sugar, which was so precious.

Controversy raged in Iceland and in Icelandic communities here when the book was first published. Many felt it painted too harsh a picture

spent in retirement. He lies buried in the church of Soroe.

A Statue of Absalon is erected on Amager Torv, Copenhagen.

of life. I found that this controversy has still not died in Iceland. I discussed the book with several persons there and got quite different reactions. Apparently everyone thought they knew who Bjartur was — he lived everywhere in Iceland.

If you want to read it, "Independent People" is available in the Edmonton Public Library.

L. MacP.

OCTOBER

Submitted by Vera Nielsen

O hushed October morning mild,
Thy leaves have ripened to the fall;
Tomorrow's wind, if it be wild,
Should waste them all,
The crows above the forest call;
Tomorrow they may form and go.
O hushed October morning mild,
Begin the hours of this day slow.
Make the day seem to us less brief.
Hearts not averse to being beguiled,
Beguile us in the way you know.
Release one leaf at break of day;
At noon release another leaf;
One from our trees, one far away.
Retard the sun with gentle mist;
Enchant the land with amethyst.
Slow, slow.
For the grapes' sake, if they were all,
Whose leaves already are burnt with frost,
Whose clustered fruit must else be lost —
For the grapes' sake along the wall.

Robert Frost

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

If you have trouble getting corn to pop . . . place the bag or can of popcorn in the deep freeze or freezing compartment of the refrigerator for at least 24 hours before using it. The corn will pop up large and tender.

bubbles bursting in your drink is not the only message the ice cap has given modern man. By boring through the layers of compressed snow, scientists have found one of the most precise records of climatic changes in the past. Isotope measurements of the ice have shown that during the last 10,000 years, the climate has had fluctuating cycles of warm and cold periods at intervals of 400 and 2,400 years. While these records have a primary interest for studies of arctic climates, the results have a bearing on climatic conditions in the rest of the world as well.

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Don Johnson - 433-6150

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SMORGASBORD: 7:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

PROGRAM AND DANCING TO FOLLOW

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The October Schedule of Broadcasts

Sunday, October 3, 17 and 31

Scandinavian History and Culture Probed

NORWEGIAN PROGRAM RADIO CKUA

Mr. Sveen: Today we should like Dr. Nelson to spend a few minutes solving an ancient, but still brightly burning, question. This question is "which of the Scandinavian countries can lay the greatest claim to the Viking inheritance?" Some say the Icelanders, because of their Saga literatures, others give evidence for Norway and Denmark because of the long progressions of great kings. The Swedes point to the ancient temples in Uppsala and claim the ancient Edda literature and Yngling line of kings. Who is most correct? Mr. James Alfredson, a philosopher who is as interested in his heritage as any of us, asks some questions:

Mr. James Alfredson: In past discussions the term "Norsemen" has been repeatedly used as well as Norwegian, Dane, Iclander and Swede. But this word troubles me. It sounds needlessly inexact. Why aren't the various heritages considered separately, a Norwegian discussed as a Norwegian, a Swede a Swede and so forth?

Dr. Nelson: You have probably voiced the natural expectation, particularly for those of us whose ancestors lived in one of the nations making up modern day Scandinavia. However, it isn't desirable to do so. The historian, Block, writing about feudal Europe says this of the Vikings: "These nations of the far North formed neither a mere sprinkling of tribes nor yet a single nation".

Mr. Alfredson: That doesn't convince me. It would be more convenient to discuss the Viking period in the way I suggested. I shouldn't think it would introduce any major inaccuracy, either.

Dr. Nelson: Well, there is more to it than the bare quote that Block gives. If we use our present day conception of Scandinavians as a group of separate nationalities, we begin at end-point and not the starting point — an upside down thing to do. It is also always dangerous because it reverses the real causal events in the situation. Whenever possible, we must avoid reasoning from effect to cause and this would be what we would be doing if we decided to look at the old culture using present standards and ideas. The old culture had a hand in somehow causing the nations we know. The present kingdoms, on the other hand, can have no effect whatever on what went before. Difficult as it may be to suppress these habits of thought, I think we must proceed from the opposite direction.

In addition, we should always remember that the purpose of these discussions is to make acquaintance with major, but often overlooked, cultural contributions made by people living long ago in the ancestral homeland. This cultural force is not represented by the later kingdoms. The Viking period precedes even the very idea that the large fixed land areas comprising the Scandinavian homeland, might be effectively bounded, taxed and ruled by a central government.

Perhaps we must start by being honest enough to recognize that the force of Scandinavia was greatest in the Viking and pre-Viking periods. The truth is that the most noteworthy portion of the heritage of a Scandinavian predates the establishments of the modern kingdoms.

Mr. Alfredson: You think, then, that it is necessary to discard the distinctions we use by habit?

Dr. Nelson: In large part, although it becomes more difficult as the Viking age draws to its close. Many of the sagas in the "Heimskringla", for example, are about

events in the late Viking period and here the beginnings of the modern nations are quite clear to us living today. However, even this being the case, it is also clear that when the events related by these sagas were actually occurring that the identification of peoples as members of national states is entirely absent. This "nation" idea is modern.

As far as Scandinavia is concerned, it is largely a product of events occurring after the Viking age closed than events occurring before, or during, the age. By the time we can speak of Scandinavian kingdoms in a meaningful way, the fire is all but out in the North and the culture or cultures of Scandinavia have lost much of their uniqueness through absorption of ideas and practices developed elsewhere. When Scandinavia is made up of nations, the peninsulas are well on their way to becoming what they are for the world at large today — isolated appendages of Europe having minor significance.

You are correct, however, when you suggest that many of the later national features of Norway, Sweden and Iceland had their beginnings in the ancestral cultures. This is right. But one must recognize the extent to which the original cultures have been mixed with imports from other cultures. The mere fact that some cultural form is found today only in Scandinavia is no assurance of its origin. Obvious examples of outside imports are: the written language, the Christian religion, ideas from classical philosophy, mathematical procedures of problem solving and so on.

Cultural transformation has not been a one-way street, of course, by any means. I think that as much or more was given than was taken by the Northmen. In fact, later on I should like to present and try to defend the idea that science, at least as we know it today, is very much a product of the Norse mentality.

To return to the point of your question, what I am trying to say is that the ideas we carry about the Scandinavian countries, things such as geographic boundaries, distinctive language and cultures are likely a product of more medieval and modern times than of old North. If we should try to look at our remote fore-fathers through this modern frame we will surely get a confused and misleading impression of their life and mentality.

Mr. Alfredson: But, is it not true that the Viking assaults upon Britain and Ireland are described in terms of "Norwegian" and "Danish" phases? Are not the Swedes supposed to have gone east?

Dr. Nelson: Yes, it is true that the raids are discussed using national terms. There is no danger in this providing that one understands what the term "Norwegian" and "Dane" means in the context. It is not meant that the population living in Denmark or in Norway or in Sweden selectively invaded various places. It is meant to describe the geographic locus of power at that period. All Scandinavian peoples took part in these raids. For example: Coins from Constantinople are found in greater abundance in Sweden, Norway and Denmark. But this does not mean that they are only found there, but indicates to scholars that the Varangian expeditions originated from this area particularly. The presence of coins in other places, no matter if they are in lesser abundance, suggests that the raiding parties came from the whole Scandinavian area. I might cite the case of Harold Hardrada who missed achieving the final conquest of England only by the barest of margins scant weeks before this was accomplished

by the Northmen from Normandy led by William. Harold, born in what is Norway today, led the Varangian guard attached to the Byzantine Empire. He led them throughout the Balkans and the Mediterranean for many years. Now the Varangians are generally thought of as Swedes and the main part of the Eastern Viking Movement. But calling the Varangian "Swedes" is just a convenience, a convenience that comes about because most of the members did come from a particular land area.

"Harold's Saga" makes Hardrada a Norwegian by modern national criteria. It is unlikely that Hardrada would have identified himself as such without meaning something very practical by it. He would have called people who supported him and his court when localized in Norway, "Norwegian", no matter where these people, who supported him, were born.

The case is similar for the Western Movement. Coins minted in England and Ireland are found in greater abundance in Denmark and Norway but are also found in Sweden. And chieftains, residing in what is now Sweden, are mentioned prominently in saga literature among the conquerors of England under Knut the Dane.

Another point is the difficulty contemporary historians experienced in defining regions of the North. They never seemed to be sure where the Viking invaders came from.

It is probably most satisfactory to think of the early invasions arising from Scandinavia as being made by adventurers, speaking many dialects but assembled for a common purpose. Their purposes were adventure, war, pillage, migration, and the attaining of tribute or real political power in Scandinavia or elsewhere.

It is very certain, that, in the early phases, Viking bands disregarded family and national ties and were generally constituted for a special program of action. We, of Scandinavian descent, share a single, rather than a multiple, heritage at base level.

Books and Articles

"Vikings of the West. The Expansion of Norway in the Middle Ages," by Per Sveas Andersen. A book in Tanum's Tokens of Norway series, this scholarly work is likely to be of interest to all students of the Vikings. It is rich in illustrations and contains a number of maps of the various areas which felt the Viking influence. 101 pp. (Published by Johan Grundt Tanum Forlag, Oslo in an economy edition and available from the Arthur Vannous Company, 20 Banta Place, Hackensack, N.J. 07601 or The Anundsen Book Centre, Decorah, Iowa 52101. Price: \$4.00).

"Gourmet, The Magazine of Good Living" in its July issue carried an article entitled "Gourmet Holidays: Bergen," by Lillian Langseth-Christensen. This delightful, illustrated story begins with a brief account of Viking history and the historical background of the City of Bergen, and then goes on to describe in delicious detail the Norwegian specialties served in hotel dining rooms in Bergen and other parts of West Norway's fjord country. Selected recipes are included. (Annual subscriptions: \$6.00. Gourmet, P.O. Box 2980, Boulder, Colorado 80302).

A tax office in a small town has a sign over the door that reads: "Watch Your Step."

As you leave the office you will see written on the back of the sign: "Watch Your Language."